

SENATE BILL 1371

By Johnson

AN ACT to name a bridge in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County in honor of the late H. Clay Turner.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor those exemplary citizens who, during their lifetimes, contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late H. Clay Turner, a noble son of the soil and one of Nashville's finest citizens; and

WHEREAS, an only child, Mr. Turner was born June 10, 1913, on the family farm in the Cane Ridge community of Davidson County; he would spend the rest of his long life there, farming the land he loved so dearly; and

WHEREAS, as a youngster, Mr. Turner learned a great deal about farming from his father, but at the tender age of sixteen, he lost his beloved patriarch in a tragic accident; and

WHEREAS, the elder Mr. Turner died in 1929, at the dawn of the Great Depression, and H. Clay Turner and his mother struggled to keep the family farm solvent, but they succeeded; and;

WHEREAS, during these trying times, Mr. Turner learned the value of hard work and thriftiness, values that he would treasure for the rest of his life; and

WHEREAS, in 1936, Mr. Turner married and subsequently raised two daughters on the family farm; after completing their educations, both daughters returned to build their respective homes on the family farm; and

WHEREAS, the proud patriarch of four grandchildren and ten great grandchildren, H. Clay Turner passed away in 2001 at the venerable age of 89, leaving behind a lasting legacy for his family: his beloved land; and

WHEREAS, as Interstate 24 and Hickory Hollow Mall were being built in Davidson County, Mr. Turner would sit on a certain bridge, observing not only the physical construction, but also watching his rural heritage being transformed into a suburban landscape; and

WHEREAS, this Body desires to name this bridge in honor of Mr. Turner to permanently commemorate his bountiful life of purpose and commitment and his agrarian legacy; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the bridge on Old Franklin Road that spans Interstate 24 in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County is hereby designated as the "H. Clay Turner Memorial Bridge" as a permanent tribute to a dedicated farmer and an even more accomplished human being.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "H. Clay Turner Memorial Bridge".

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within

one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.